

DUTTON *Goldfield*

2001

**MORELLI LANE VINEYARD
ZINFANDEL
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY**

APPELLATION

Russian River Valley

VINEYARDS

Morelli Lane Vineyard

ALCOHOL

14.5%

TITRATABLE ACIDITY

.61 gm/100 ml.

PH

3.73

WINEMAKING

Open top fermentation,
cold soak, manual punch
down twice daily

BARREL AGING

10 months in French oak
(40% new barrels)

WINEMAKER

Dan Goldfield

CASES PRODUCED

370

THE VINEYARD

Morelli Lane Zinfandel is a unique planting located at the top of a ridge, just north of the town of Occidental on the far western edge of the Russian River Valley appellation. This century-old, dry-farmed, head-trained 1.2-acre block is all that's left of an original vineyard planted by the area's early Italian settlers over 100 years ago. Left unfarmed for years, the Duttons revived the vineyard in 1995 and its fruit now enables us to provide this special limited bottling of old vine Zinfandel. This cool, coastal site produces a Zin of exceptional fruit concentration, moderate alcohol, and bright acid backbone.

WINEMAKING

Making this wine is all about showcasing the special personality of this wonderful vineyard – ebullient fruit, silky tannins, density without heaviness. To these ends we destem the fruit and cold soak for 7 days and then ferment in a small open top fermenter, with gentle hand punchdowns. We age in French oak chosen to showcase the sweet fruit, and to impart spice and complexity. We select our wood to subtly enhance the fruit character without masking it. The wine is racked once in early spring to marry the individual barrel contributions, and to help clarify it for unfiltered bottling. It was bottled in the fall after spending approximately 10 months in wood.

THE WINE

Our 2001 vintage offering displays a level of silkiness and elegance rare to Zinfandel, while still bursting with the crystalline fruit so central to the varietal's charm. Bright raspberry, blackberry and caramel on the nose give way to enticingly fine grain tannins and creamy bright raspberry on the palate. It finishes with the candied berry fruits and subtle spice so central to its venerable nature. This is a Zin that's wonderfully easy to drink and, with its moderate alcohol, is a great paring with many foods.

After working closely together as winemaker and grape grower since 1990, Steve Dutton and Dan Goldfield merged their talents to create Dutton-Goldfield Winery in 1998. Our mission is to produce vineyard-designated Pinot Noir and Chardonnay (along with a touch of Zinfandel and Syrah) from our home in the western Russian River Valley. The wines express the unique qualities of fruit from hand-selected vineyards and the work of an appreciative winemaker.